United Nations A/AC.172/2015/1/Rev.1

General Assembly

Distr.: General
26 August 2015

Original: English

Committee on Conferences
Substantive session of 2015
8-14 September 2015

Agenda and programme of work for 2015

The agenda for the substantive session of 2015 of the Committee on Conferences was approved by the Committee at its organizational session, on 22 April 2015, on the basis of an annotated provisional agenda proposed by the Secretariat (see A/AC.172/2015/L.1, annex). Subsequently, a revision to the agenda for the substantive session became necessary owing to a need to add the following item: Election of officers. The revised agenda is issued in the present document for consideration and approval by the Committee.

All matters pertaining to conference management and regularly reported under the agenda item "Pattern of conferences" have been included in one consolidated report (A/70/122). Statistical and other relevant data have been provided as information supplementary to the report. The draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2016 and 2017 has been issued (A/AC.172/2015/L.2). At its organizational session, the Committee also decided, as it had in previous years, to include in its programme of work for the year informal briefings by the Secretariat on issues related to conference management of interest to Member States. In preparation for the substantive session, a briefing by the Secretariat is proposed for 3 September 2015. Other briefings may be scheduled at the request of Member States.

At its organizational session, the Committee also reconfirmed the dates for its substantive session, to be held from 8 to 14 September 2015. The programme of work will follow the same pattern as in previous years: the Committee will meet formally on 8 and 9 September and will hold informal consultations, as required, on 10 and 11 September before concluding its work on 14 September.

Agenda for the substantive session of 2015

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Calendar of conferences and meetings:

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Please recycle

(a) Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243;

(b) Adoption of the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2016 and 2017;

(c) Intersessional departures for 2015.

4. Meetings management:

(a) Utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities:

(i) Meeting statistics of United Nations organs and consultations with/letters to bodies concerning utilization of conference-servicing resources;

(ii) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of bodies entitled to meet "as required";

(iii) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States;

(iv) Utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi;

(v) Utilization of the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa;

(b) Impact of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach), on meetings held at Headquarters during its implementation.

5. Integrated global management.

6. Matters related to documentation and publications.

7. Matters related to translation and interpretation.

8. Organization of work.

9. Adoption of the report and proposed dates for the organizational and substantive sessions for 2016.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

In accordance with rule 105 of the rules of procedure, following the resignation of Imelda Smolčić of Uruguay, the Latin American and Caribbean States are requested to nominate another member of the Committee to replace her as Chair. The election will be held at the opening of the substantive session of the Committee, on 8 September 2015.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

3. Calendar of conferences and meetings

(a) Requests for exceptions to section I, paragraph 7, of General Assembly resolution 40/243

The Secretariat will report on requests received pursuant to paragraph 15 of General Assembly resolution 47/202 A and section I, paragraph 7, of resolution 40/243 for action by the Committee.

Documentation: Letter from the Chair of the Committee on Conferences addressed to the President of the General Assembly (A/70/__)

(b) Adoption of the draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2016 and 2017

The Secretariat has prepared a draft calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2016 and 2017 for consideration by the Committee.

The Committee will submit the draft calendar to the General Assembly at its seventieth session for approval.

Documentation: Draft biennial calendar of conferences and meetings of the United Nations for 2016 and 2017 (A/AC.172/2015/L.2)

(c) Intersessional departures for 2015

The Secretariat will compile a list of requests for intersessional departures from the approved calendar of conferences and meetings for 2015, together with information on any action taken by the Committee.

4. Meetings management

(a) Utilization of conference-servicing resources and facilities

(i) Meeting statistics of United Nations organs and consultations with/letters to bodies concerning utilization of conference-servicing resources

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 14 to 21, 23 and 27 of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

Documentation: Statistical data and analysis of the planned and actual utilization of conference-servicing resources allocated to a core sample of bodies at all four duty stations will be made available to the Committee as supplementary information. The Chair will report orally on consultations with bodies in New York and on written communications with bodies at other duty stations that have underutilized their conference-servicing resources.

(ii) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of bodies entitled to meet "as required"

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraph 22 of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

(iii) Provision of interpretation services to meetings of regional and other major groupings of Member States

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 24 to 26 of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

(iv) Utilization of conference facilities at the United Nations Office at Nairobi

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraph 28 of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

(v) Utilization of the conference centre at the Economic Commission for Africa

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to paragraphs 29 to 33 of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

(b) Impact of the capital master plan, strategy IV (phased approach), on meetings held at Headquarters during its implementation

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to section II.B of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

5. Integrated global management

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to section III of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

6. Matters related to documentation and publications

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to section IV of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

7. Matters related to translation and interpretation

The Secretariat will report on the matter pursuant to section V of General Assembly resolution 69/250.

8. Organization of work

In section II.A, paragraph 20, of its resolution 57/283 B, the General Assembly encouraged the Committee to keep under continued review the procedures for the participation of observers in the work of the Committee.

9. Adoption of the report and proposed dates for the organizational and substantive sessions for 2016

The Committee will adopt its draft report for 2015 and the draft resolution on the pattern of conferences for recommendation to the General Assembly at its seventieth session. The Committee will approve the dates proposed for its organizational and substantive sessions for 2016.